

TIMELY TURF TOPICS

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MERCURY FUNGICIDES AND ARSENICALS PROVIDED FOR DEFENSE: Supplies of many mercury and arsenic compounds have been provided for defense purposes. These compounds include calomel, bichloride of mercury, organic mercury seed disinfectants, calcium arsenate, arsenate of lead, Paris green, sodium arsenite, and white arsenic. In the event of a shortage of any of these materials, they are to be made available for agricultural use as insecticides, germicides, and fungicides, according to Preference Rating Order No. P-87 of the Office of Production Management, dated December 13. This order grants a preference rating of A-10 for strictly agricultural purposes.

Plans for the administration of this order have not been completed as yet, but it appears at present as though grass for turf purposes will not be considered as a strictly agricultural crop. This probably means that should there be a shortage of any of these mercury and arsenic compounds, they will not be available for use in turf maintenance on projects unrelated to defense. In compliance with the defense program, therefore, many turf maintenance practices, including the control of diseases, grubs, and weeds, may have to be drastically modified.

It has been reliably estimated that in 1941 approximately 125,000 pounds of metallic mercury were sold for use on golf courses, all of which, through the administration of this order, will be available for defense, should a shortage occur. Comparable figures for the amounts of the several arsenicals used in the maintenance of turf on golf courses are not available.

REPAIR MACHINES NOW: All machines and equipment which can possibly be used next season if properly repaired should be taken care of now. So long as it is possible for the manufacturers to get the necessary raw materials for the purpose, repair parts for machines used in agricultural programs will be available. All people using such equipment are urged to assist the defense program by repairing that which they have on hand rather than attempting to replace it with new machines. To avoid delays in spring maintenance programs, this repair work should be started now, particularly if repair parts have not already been ordered.

BURLAP BAGS: The jute from which burlap is manufactured is largely grown in India. Because of the far eastern situation and present problems of shipping, the supply of new material imported has been and will continue to be seriously curtailed. Prior to the rapid acceleration of activities in the national defense program, eighty-six percent of the burlap used in this country went into agricultural bags. The suddenly increased demand for burlap sandbags for defense purposes, however, combined with the curtailment of importations of new material may create an acute situation for the users of agricultural bags. Since there are also increased demands for such materials as heavy paper which might be used as a substitute for burlap, the conservation of used or second-hand bags is imperative.

On August 17, 1941, after prices of new burlap had more than doubled what they were a year before, an order of the Office of Price Administration set a ceiling price on new material at 20 percent below the market levels of that date. In order to stabilize the industry, a ceiling price was also placed on second-hand bags on December 16. The price set was that which had prevailed between November 15 and December 6. Our readers, many of whom have been buying large quantities of material in burlap bags, are urged to turn them back into circulation.

A TURF CULTURE LIBRARY

During the winter months when turf maintenance is at a low ebb in the North is the time for one to get acquainted with the literature on any problems of turf culture which are of particularly vital concern to him. Since requests are frequently received for authoritative books and pamphlets on various angles of the problems connected with the establishment and maintenance of better turf, the accompanying list was compiled. It is hoped that this list may serve as a guide for your reading program this winter.

This list of references should not in any way be considered as complete. Neither should the reader find it necessary to have all of the books and pamphlets included on any one subject. When available, two or more books usually are included under each subject, one representing a complete and authoritative treatise and the other an abridged, less technical and cheaper book. The reader can judge which will be most suited for his needs. Many very desirable references are not included either because they are not readily available, or because their technical nature makes them less useful to the average person interested in turf culture than others which are included.

Under each subject heading, the references are arranged in the following order: books, U.S.D.A. bulletins and circulars, state agricultural experiment station bulletins and circulars arranged alphabetically by states, U.S.G.A. publications, and finally articles appearing in miscellaneous scientific publications. Because of the difficulty the layman may experience in obtaining these latter, very few are included.

Our readers should be reminded that probably the most complete discussion of problems associated with turf culture generally and with golf course construction and maintenance in particular, are to be found in the 13 volumes of the U.S.G.A. Bulletin (1921 to 1933 inclusive) and the 2 volumes of Turf Culture (1939 to 1941 inclusive). Specific mention is made to only a few of the numbers which are particularly indispensable in any turf culture library. Throughout these publications, however, there are hundreds of miscellaneous short articles, mention of which must obviously be omitted in this list.

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Methods of Attracting Birds. Trafton. Houghton-Mifflin Co. \$2.00.
How to Attract Birds. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bulls. 621, 715, 844, 912.
Homes for Birds. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1456.
Local Bird Refuges. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1644.
Song Bird Sanctuaries with Table of Trees, Shrubs and Vines Attractive to Birds.
Peterson. Natl. Assn of Audubon Societies. New York City. Circ. 19. 1937.

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Elements of Botany, 3rd Ed. Holman and Robbins. John Wiley and Sons. 1940. \$2.75.
Textbook of Botany. Transeau and others. Harper. 1940. \$4.00.
Plant Physiology. Meyer and Anderson. Van Nostrand. 1940. \$4.50.

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- First Principles of Chemistry, Revised Ed. Brownlee and others. Allyn. 1940. \$1.80.
Introductory College Chemistry. Gordon and Trout. Wiley. 1940. \$3.50.
General Agricultural Chemistry. Hart and Tottingham. McGraw Hill. \$2.50.
Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 24th Ed. Chem. Rubber Co. Chicago. 1940. \$3.50.

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Elements of Plant Pathology. Melhus and Kent. MacMillan. 1939. \$4.00.
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Soil. Minn. Agr. Exp. Sta. Technical Bull. 101. 1934.
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Handbook of Fertilizers, 3rd Ed. Gustafson. Orange Judd Publishing Co. 1939. \$1.75.
Hunger Signs in Crops, a Symposium. Judd and Detweiler. 1941. \$2.50.
Theory and Practice in the Use of Fertilizer, 2nd Ed. Bear. John Wiley and Sons.
1940. \$4.00.
Selecting Fertilizers. U.S.D.A. Circ. 487.
Home-Mixing of Fertilizers. U.S.D.A. Leaflet 70.
Phosphorus Deficiency and Soil Fertility. U.S.D.A. Yearbook Separate 1628.
Residual Effects of Fertilizer. Mich. Quart. Bull. Vol. 18, No. 4.
Commercial Fertilizers and Soil Acidity. N. J. Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. 266. 1933.
Fertilizer Materials and Mixed Fertilizers. N.J. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bull. 651. 1938.
Experiments with Fertilizers on Bent Turf. Turf Culture Vol. 1, No. 3. 1939.
Fertilizer Trials on Demonstration Gardens. Turf Culture Vol. 1, No. 3. 1939.
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Kentucky Bluegrass. Turf Culture Vol. 2, No. 1. 1940.
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- Relation of Temperature and Moisture Content to Longevity of Chewings Fescue Seed.
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Carpet Grass. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1130.
Important Cultivated Grasses. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1254.
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A Manual for the Study of Insects, 22nd Ed. Revised by Glen W. Herrick. 401 pp. 633 illus. Comstock and Comstock. Comstock Publishing Co., Inc. 1938. \$4.00.
Characters Useful in Distinguishing Larvae of Japanese Beetle and Other Introduced Species from Native Species. U.S.D.A. Circ. 334.
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Insect and Pest Control

- General Information about the Japanese Beetle in the U.S. U.S.D.A. Circ. 332.
Life History and Control of the Asiatic Garden Beetle. U.S.D.A. Circ. 246.
Control of the Japanese Beetle and Its Grubs in Home Yards. U.S.D.A. Circ. 401.
Preventing Injury from Japanese and Asiatic Beetle Larvae to Turf in Parks and Other Large Areas. U.S.D.A. Circ. 403.
Sod Webworms and Their Control in Lawns and Golf Greens. U.S.D.A. Circ. 248.
The Bluegrass Webworm. U.S.D.A. Technical Bull. 173.
How to Fight the Chinch Bug. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1780.
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Mouse Control in Field and Orchard. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bull. 1397.
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Vol. 26, No. 6. 1933.

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Newsletter (Monthly). Fall River, Mass.
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Practical Book of Garden Structure and Design. Eberlein and Hubbard. Lippincott.
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Trees and Shrubs for Landscape Effects. Coffin. Scribner. 1940. \$3.00.
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Practical Lawn Care. Merriett. De La Mare. 1939. \$.75.
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